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**NEWARK PARTNERSHIP FOR LEAD SAFE  
CHILDREN HOUSING & EDUCATION MEETING**



**WORKING TOGETHER TO SAVE OUR CHILDREN**

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## NEWARK PARTNERSHIP FOR LEAD SAFE CHILDREN

### HOUSING & EDUCATION MEETING

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#### WORKING TOGETHER TO SAVE OUR CHILDREN

##### *CITY COUNCIL HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING:*

The meeting begin with a briefing of the March 5<sup>th</sup> housing committee city council meeting, which made great inference on the council members in the partnership for lead safe children program. And how they would like to be more informed and involved. In addition to inquirer's of how they can contribute to this cause. The attending council members where as followed:

- Central Ward councilman, Cory Booker
- Councilwoman at Large, Bessie Walker
- East Ward Councilman, Augusto Amador
- West Ward Councilwoman, Mamie Brideforth
- President & South Ward Councilman, Donald Bradley

Also in attendance was Director of Greater Newark HUD Tenants, Coalition Mr. Frank Hutchins, Committee Chairpersons John Weber and Lea Mcreynolds.

During the *City Council Housing Committee meeting*, it was mentioned that According to by-laws landlords has 60 to 90 days to react to any lead painted apartment after such time tenants can take legal action against the landlord. If the landlord replaces lead paint in the apartments before a child has been detected, with lead poisoning there are less legal and finical repercussions to pay. And if the lead poisoning problem is repaired after the child has been detected with lead poisoning there is an enormous financial fee to be paid and a large amount of legal procedures to endure.

##### CLPER:

The childhood Lead Poisoning Emergency Response's is making an attempt to have Medicaid pay for lead poisoning children, which currently declines to pay for lead affected children's treatment. In addition to the CLPER's attempt to provide treatment from Medicaid for children of lead poisoning, there is also a great interest in informing teen mothers of the importance of having their children screened for lead poisoning, threw School Based Youth Program (Teen Powerhouse) the program has made a request for Lead educational classes.

## **PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE CONFERENCE:**

The committee had an educational lead safety meeting for all parents, teachers and children, however the turn out for this event results were extremely poor. It seems that not many parents were interested in this important lead safety meeting. Which is a same for the children because it will be the children who suffer as a result of there parents non-interest?

## **DOCTOR'S AND TESTING:**

There are too many doctors who do insufficient lead testing and only ten percent of children are being tested. The children can be tested and treated but the damage for the children who where detected with high blood lead levels are irreversible.

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE LEAD POISONING:**

On April 21,2000 City of New Hampshire a two year old child died from lead poisoning. The child's family moved to the US five weeks ago from Sudan, Egypt, where they escaped from a refugee camp. The two year old little girl was hospitalized on April 18,2000 and found to have a blood level of 392 mg/dl. The last known US death from lead poisoning occurred in Wisconsin in 1990.

There has been a great deal of speculation about the source of exposure in this death in New Hampshire, which has attracted significant media attention. Health officials believe it is unlikely that the child's lead poisoning was caused by exposure to lead in the home environment and there are no indications of lead in home remedies, make-up, or other sources. Her three siblings had barely detectable lead levels.

An April 27 associated press wire story, which was published in the Boston Globe and elsewhere, "Death is linked to milk in Egypt," claimed that authorities believe a powdered milk supplement that the child drank in Egypt to be the source of exposure. However, health officials in New Hampshire indicated that this has not been confirmed. An environmental and epidemiological investigations underway by health officials in New Hampshire and at the center for Disease Control to determine the source of her exposure.

## **NEWARK'S CHILDREN AND LEAD POISONING:**

### **NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH ELEVATED (EBL):**

In Essex County there has been a report of 740 children with elevated blood lead levels in the year 1999. Within those seven-hundred and forty children 61.6% where children in Newark, NJ. And in the year 1998 there was a report of 1,016 children with elevated blood lead levels of which 64.6% where Newark children.

New Jersey's elevated blood level report for the year 1999 is 1,604 children have been detected with high-elevated blood levels. Out of the 1,604 28.4% are Newark children, and for the year 1998 there were 2,071 children in New Jersey with EBL and Newark children 31.7% of the 2,071.

LEAD LEVELS IN NEWARK'S DRINKING WATER	
March – April, 1998	0.0126 mg of Lead per 1 L of water (mg/L)
November, 1997	0.0096 mg of Lead per 1L of water (mg/L)
January – June, 1992	0.0271 mg of Lead per 1L of water (mg/L)
Acceptable Limit for Lead in Drinking water...0.0150 mg of Lead Per 1 L of water (mg/L)	

In conclusion this is just a small part of what is going on with lead poisoning and our children. So if we don't care enough to help our own children who will, so please people of all ages, sex and origin let's come together to stop Lead poisoning from killing and harming our children.